(b) The Programme of Action, 1992 prepared in pursuance of National Policy on Education, 1986 envisages provision of primary schools for all habitations with population of 300. The Eight Five Year Plan provides for provision of primary schools within one kilometre walking distance. The responsibility for opening primary schools rests with the State Governments which have evolved their own norms for this purpose on these lines.

(c) The costs of enhancing capacity of primary schools to enrol children in the age group of 6—11 years are estimated by the respective State Governments.

Statement

Statewise number of Primary Schools in the country in the year 1994-95 (As on 30.9.1994)

S. No.	STATE	Primary/Junior Basic Schools
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49153
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1195
3.	Assam	29173
4.	Bihar	53053
5.	Goa	1021
6.	Gujarat	14338
7.	Haryana	5659
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7611
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	9784
10.	Karnataka	22768
11.	Kerala	6694
12.	Madhya Pradesh	72478
13.	Maharashtra	40628
14.	Manipur	3027
15.	Meghalaya	4177
16.	Mizoram	1149
17.	Nagaland	1399
18.	Orissa	42104
19.	Punjab	12509
20.	Rajasthan	34569
21.	Sikkim	529
22.	Tamil Nadu	30351
23.	Tripura	2055
24.	Uttar Pradesh	82023
25.	West Bengal	51021
26.	A & N Islands	184
27.	Chandigarh	29
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	139
29.	Daman & Diu	49
30.	Delhi	2072
31.	Lakshadweep	19
32.	Pondicherry	345
	India	581305

Steps taken to make open Universities more meaningful

60. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Open Universities in the country at present;

(b) whether Government propose to make these universities more effective, meaningful and beneficial for the students; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) In addition to the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), there are six State Open Universities-one each in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

(b) and (c) IGNOU was established by an Act of Parliament in 1985 to take all such steps as it may deem fit to promote open university and distance education system, including the power to disburse grants. IGNOU had established a Distance Education Council which has been providing academic support, guidance and financial assistance to State Open Universities eligible under the UGC Act to receive developmental assistance.

Provision of Houses to Urban Poor in Karnataka

87. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of urban poor provided with houses in Karnataka under the Central Schemes during the past three years, district-wise;

(b) whether constructed houses were provided to them or an amount is provided for constructing the houses; and

(c) the total amount spent on such schemes during the last three years and agency which implemented the schemes in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) At present,

there is no Central sector scheme for providing houses to the urban poor. Housing being a State subject, State Governments are formulating and implementing housing schemes for various target groups as per plan priorities, out of State plan outlay supplemented through institutional finance from HUDCO.

HUDCO has reported that it has sanctioned loan assistance of Rs. 21.95 crores during the last three years for construction of 18935 dwelling units of urban EWS. The loan assistance has been utilised by the housing agencies, mentioned below, in providing constructed houses to the beneficiaries:—

1. Karnataka Housing Board.
2. Slum clearance Board.
3. Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
4. Bangalore City Corporation.

Low rate of Literacy in Andhra Pradesh

88. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 777 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 1996 and state:

(a) the reasons for which Andhra Pradesh lags behind in National Average Literacy rate;

(b) whether any Central assistance will be provided to the State of Andhra Pradesh to improve the literacy rate; and

(c) if so, what concrete programmes have been initiated by the State in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The reasons are large geographical tracts, backward areas including tribal areas and poor socio-economic conditions.

(b) All the 23 districts in Andhra Pradesh have been covered under Total Literacy Campaign (TLC). Of them, 19 districts have been covered under the Post Literacy Campaign also. Central assistance is being provided to the State as per the approved pattern of implementation of the Literacy Campaign under the guidelines of the National Literacy Mission Authority. On successful completion of the Post Literacy Campaign, Central Govt. proposes to launch Continuing Education for the benefit of the neo-literates emerging out of the Literacy Campaign. Assistance will be provided under this scheme on 100 per cent basis during the first 3 years and 50 per cent in the subsequent 2 years of starting the scheme. With a view to achieve total literacy, special measures are being taken by improving the monitoring and evaluation system; operation restoration; strengthening of the administrative structure in the States including involvement of Panchayat Raj Institutions in the implementation of the programme.

(c) The Total Literacy Campaign programme is implemented in the State by the Zilla Saksharata Samiti to which Collector is the Chairman. The costs of the campaign are shared between Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 2:1. All the functionaries of the State Government at district level are involved in the implementation of TLC in a campaign mode.

Checking of Brain Drain

89. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dangerous trend of brain drain;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the causes and the magnitude of brain drain;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) Some Indian scientists, engineers, medical graduates do migrate to other countries for higher studies/work abroad and some of them tend to stay back. But it has not been possible to maintain a record of such migrants and of those who permanently settle abroad. In order to attract such personnel back to the country, the Government have taken steps which include increase in Science and